

Message Text

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S/S: MR. BORG

S:JCOVEY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA FLASH

INFO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 165846

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL LETTER TO PRIME MINISTER DEMIREL

FOR AMBASSADOR MACOMBER

THERE FOLLOWS THE TEXT OF A LETTER FROM PRESIDENT FORD WHICH YOU SHOULD DELIVER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO PRIME MINISTER DEMIREL. THE SIGNED ORIGINAL OF THE LETTER WILL BE FORWARDED TO ANKARA AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

BEGIN TEXT: DEAR MR. PRIME MINISTER:

I HAVE ASKED AMBASSADOR MACOMBER TO RETURN PROMPTLY TO ANKARA TO CARRY THIS MESSAGE AND TO GIVE YOU A DETAILED, FIRST-HAND REPORT ON OUR EFFORTS WITH THE CONGRESS TO
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ACHIEVE LEGISLATIVE ACTION ON THE PROHIBITIONS ON ARMS

SHIPMENT TO TURKEY.

AS AMBASSADOR ESENBEL HAS UNDOUBTEDLY REPORTED, I HAVE BEEN ENGAGED THIS PAST WEEK IN INTENSIVE DISCUSSION WITH THE LEADERSHIP OF THE CONGRESS AND PARTICULARLY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO WORK OUT AN AGREED AND COOPERATIVE APPROACH TO THIS MATTER. THE PROGRESS WE HAVE MADE TO DATE LEADS ME TO BELIEVE THAT FAVORABLE ACTION IS NOW POSSIBLE

ON MEASURES GOING A LONG WAY TO RESTORE OUR SECURITY RELATIONSHIP. THE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES HAS REPORTED TO THE FULL HOUSE A BILL WHICH, WHILE IT DOES NOT CONTAIN ALL THE ELEMENTS WE WOULD WISH AND WILL CONTINUE TO SEEK, DOES LIFT THE EMBARGO. IT WILL PERMIT YOUR GOVERNMENT TO MAKE NEW CASH PURCHASES FROM COMMERCIAL SUPPLIERS IN THE UNITED STATES AND TAKE DELIVERY OF SOME \$185 MILLION IN PIPELINE MATERIAL AS WELL.

THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS ON THIS BILL WILL CONTINUE THIS WEEK AND I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT WE INTEND TO CONTINUE TO WORK WITH THE CONGRESS URGENTLY TO KEEP THIS PROCESS MOVING IN A POSITIVE DIRECTION.

IN THIS EFFORT, MY OBJECTIVE WILL BE TO RESTORE OUR SECURITY RELATIONSHIP TO A SOUND AND COOPERATIVE BASIS SO THAT IT CAN CONTINUE TO SERVE THE MUTUAL DEFENSE PURPOSES THAT HAVE GUIDED OUR TWO COUNTRIES FOR SO MANY YEARS. I AM CONFIDENT, FROM THE RESTRAINT THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT HAS SHOWN TO DATE, THAT THIS IS ALSO YOUR OBJECTIVE. THAT IS WHY I BELIEVE IT SO IMPORTANT, NOW THAT WE HAVE COME SO FAR IN THE INTENSIVE EFFORT WE HAVE MAINTAINED HERE, THAT NO ACTIONS BE TAKEN IN THE DAYS AHEAD THAT WOULD COMPLICATE THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS OR, EVEN MORE IMPORTANTLY, SET IN MOTION A TREND THAT NEITHER OF US SEEKS.

AS WE CONTINUE OUR MUTUAL EFFORTS, I CANNOT EMPHASIS TOO STRONGLY THE IMPORTANCE I ATTACH TO ANOTHER MATTER OF COMMON CONCERN - PROGRESS TOWARD A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT IN CYPRUS. I WOULD LIKE TO EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF CONFIDENTIAL

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CONCRETE PROGRESS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH WILL RESUME IN VIENNA ON JULY 24. ALL THE PARTIES CONCERNED SHOULD MAKE AN EFFORT TO DEAL WITH THE RANGE OF DIFFICULT, SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES THAT DIVIDE THE TWO COMMUNITIES ON THE ISLAND.

SINCE IT NOW SEEMS LIKELY THAT THE EUROPEAN SECURITY CONFERENCE WILL CONVENE IN HELSINKI AT THE END OF THE

MONTH, I LOOK FORWARD WITH PLEASURE TO SEEING YOU
THERE AND TO RESUMING THE DIALOGUE THAT WE BEGAN IN
BRUSSELS AND THAT MATTERS SO MUCH FOR THE FUTURE OF US-
TURKISH RELATIONS. CORDIALLY, GERALD R. FORD. END OF
TEXT. INGERSOLL

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